

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

*Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 26(10) 1978-1995  
© The Author(s) 2011  
Reprints and permissions: <http://www.sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav>

WLW  
CINCINNATI

# FORTUNES WASHED AWAY

1:15  
P.M. - E.S.T.

---

A SERIES OF DRAMATIZATIONS OF BETTER LAND USE.

---

No. 160

"PARADISE VALLEY"

May 17, 1941

---

ORGAN THEME: DEEP RIVER

VOICE

We took it for granted that land was everlasting;

We said ownership of the land insured security.

Tools would wear out, men would die --

But the land would remain.

ORGAN: ABRUPT DISCORD

ANNOUNCER (cold)

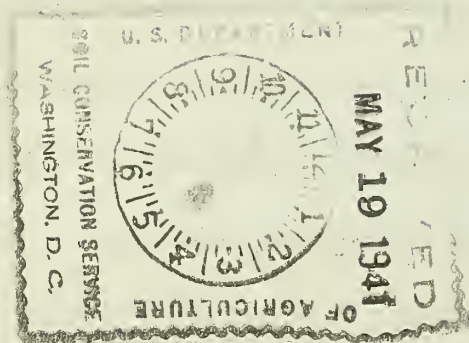
Fortunes Washed Away!

ORGAN: DEEP RIVER

ANNOUNCER

Far in the Pacific Northwest is the boot-shaped state of Idaho, little-known, much-loved....Idaho, named from the Shoshone Indian expression "Look, the sun is coming down the mountain." Here is a land of cut-over forests and fabulous mining industries, here are hills and mountains, rugged canyons and deep ravines, upland meadows and rolling prairies and sagebrush plains. Here are the gorges of the Snake River and the Bitter Root range -- and in the northern tip, picturesque Priest Lake, the Kootenai Valley, and Paradise Valley, the scene of the 160th consecutive episode of "Fortunes Washed Away."

ORGAN: UP AND OUT



ANNOUNCER

Paradise Valley today is inhabited by many a family who came from the Dust Bowl -- and such a family is the Davis family. Nelle Portrey Davis tells the story. It all began in 1936, at the peak of the migration....(FADE)

NARRATOR

We didn't mind work. We just wanted to be self-sufficient farmers, trying to do our best to take care of the land. We'd heard about this cut-over timberland, heard that it was a country of good, cheap land, most of all a country where it rained. But leaving our little ranch in Colorado wasn't easy. You see...(FADE)

SOUND: Noises indicating final loading of household goods on car...

SOUND: Whistling wind...

DAVIS (grunting)

There! That ought to hold.

NELLE

It'll be a long trip.

DAVIS

And I wonder....what will we find at the end?

NELLE

A pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, I suppose. Oh...I hate to even look back. And look at the children -- they know that something's wrong.

DAVIS

Our first home. Yep, Nelle, you and I built those 'dobe walls, brick by brick. Two young people who planted those elm trees, the iris border and the rose hedge.

NELLE

And two young people who fenced the land together.

Figure 1 is a line graph showing the percentage of total catch versus the number of hauls for various fish species. The x-axis is labeled 'Number of hauls' and ranges from 0 to 10. The y-axis is labeled 'Percentage of total catch' and ranges from 0 to 100. There are 20 data series, each represented by a different line style and marker. The series are numbered 1 through 20. Series 1 (solid line, circles) shows a sharp increase in catch percentage as the number of hauls increases, reaching nearly 100% by haul 10. Series 2 (dashed line, squares) shows a steady increase, reaching about 80% by haul 10. Series 3 (dotted line, triangles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 60% by haul 10. Series 4 (dash-dot line, diamonds) shows a steady increase, reaching about 40% by haul 10. Series 5 (solid line, circles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 30% by haul 10. Series 6 (dashed line, squares) shows a steady increase, reaching about 20% by haul 10. Series 7 (dotted line, triangles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 10% by haul 10. Series 8 (dash-dot line, diamonds) shows a steady increase, reaching about 5% by haul 10. Series 9 (solid line, circles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 3% by haul 10. Series 10 (dashed line, squares) shows a steady increase, reaching about 2% by haul 10. Series 11 (dotted line, triangles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 1% by haul 10. Series 12 (dash-dot line, diamonds) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.5% by haul 10. Series 13 (solid line, circles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.2% by haul 10. Series 14 (dashed line, squares) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.1% by haul 10. Series 15 (dotted line, triangles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.05% by haul 10. Series 16 (dash-dot line, diamonds) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.02% by haul 10. Series 17 (solid line, circles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.01% by haul 10. Series 18 (dashed line, squares) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.005% by haul 10. Series 19 (dotted line, triangles) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.002% by haul 10. Series 20 (dash-dot line, diamonds) shows a steady increase, reaching about 0.001% by haul 10.

...and the ...



DAVIS

And for what? Oh, Nelle, I can't be bitter about it, yet...well, newcomers hate these plains. All they see are the shifting sand dunes, the cattle dying of starvation, the wind hurling sand against the windows, beating down the vegetation, uprooting the grass, topsoil going with every wind...

NELLE

And it was once so beautiful...the plains dotted with prosperous farms, waving stands of grass, summer clouds and shadows, glorious sunrises...and now they're gone, because foolish men plowed up the grass.

DAVIS

That's what I mean! Newcomers hate the plains -- but they're home to us.

NELLE

Home. Well...

DAVIS (huskily)

Come on, Nelle. We're off -- to where?

SOUND: Car starts, drives off, and fades...

NARRATOR

It was pretty tough, I tell you, leaving the home where we started life together. We headed north into Wyoming, then west. Tourist camps all along the way were crowded. One night, we had finished dinner and were sitting by the campfire when a strange old fellow came up..(fade)

JOHNSON (fading in)

Howdy, neighbors. Seen you over here and thought I'd say howdy.

DAVIS

Make yourself at home.

... ..  
... ..  
... ..  
... ..  
... ..

... ..  
... ..  
... ..

... ..

... ..  
... ..  
... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..



JOHNSON

Fire feels right good tonight, don't it?

DAVIS

Yes, it does.

JOHNSON

My name's Johnson -- Gunnysack Johnson.

DAVIS

And we're Mister and Missus Davis.

JOHNSON

Pleased to make your acquaintance.

NELLE

Won't you sit down?

JOHNSON

Reckon I will at that. Where you folks headed, California?

NELLE

Idaho. We hear there's cheap land for sale up there.

JOHNSON

Idaho! Did you say Idaho?

DAVIS

That's right.

JOHNSON

Well, if that don't beat a hen a-peckin'. I was borned and raised up there.

NELLE

Oh, is that so? What's it like? I hope it doesn't have the wind we had in Colorado.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem.

2. The second part is devoted to a detailed analysis of the results.

3. The third part is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions.

4. The fourth part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

5. The fifth part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

6. The sixth part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

JOHNSON

Wind? Did you say wind? Why, my grandad woke up one morning to find that a wind had blown all his chickens against the barn and held them there -- it was that strong. Yessir, I know all about that country.

DAVIS

I guess we soon will. We're going almost like homesteaders.

JOHNSON

I homesteaded up there. Can't say I got lonesome though. I had a dollar watch and the tick season was on. When I wasn't windin' the watch I was scratching tick bites. And flies!

NELLIE

Are they bad, Mr.....

JOHNSON

Johnson, Gunnysack Johnson. You ask me, are they bad. One time I took my horse to an old hotel, and they showed me the stable. I says to the lady, I says, I can't put my horse in that stable. Why not, she says, indignant like. Why, I says, there's a million flies in that stable. She just looks back over her shoulder at the kitchen clock and says, well, just wait about 20 minutes, and they'll all be in the dining room.

DAVIS (laughing)

And I suppose you stayed.

JOHNSON

Well, I did until the muskeeters come along. Why, they was so gad-plumb thick that if you wanted to talk to a person, you had to throw a brick at him and then talk through the hole. And there was the time when I...(FADE).

The first of these is the fact that the

the second is the fact that the

the third is the fact that the

the fourth is the fact that the

the fifth is the fact that the

the sixth is the fact that the

the seventh is the fact that the

the eighth is the fact that the

the ninth is the fact that the

the tenth is the fact that the

the eleventh is the fact that the

the twelfth is the fact that the

the thirteenth is the fact that the

the fourteenth is the fact that the

the fifteenth is the fact that the

the sixteenth is the fact that the

the seventeenth is the fact that the

the eighteenth is the fact that the

the nineteenth is the fact that the

the twentieth is the fact that the

the twenty-first is the fact that the

the twenty-second is the fact that the

the twenty-third is the fact that the

the twenty-fourth is the fact that the

the twenty-fifth is the fact that the

the twenty-sixth is the fact that the

NARRATOR

I don't need to tell you we had serious misgivings about what was ahead of us. We wanted to go to the valley of the Kootenai River, which, so we were told, had a lot of bench lands. These benches had been covered with timber, but they were "cut over" fifty years ago, and the undeveloped land was cheap. But could we, born and bred in the prairies, ever be content to live between hills? That night it rained, a slow, gentle, soothing rain. As we listened to the soft patter on the cabin roof we realized it was the first steady, soaking rain we had known in years, and we knew that whatever hardships were ahead, we would love our new home. And as we started to leave the next morning, our new friend came up...(FADE).

JOHNSON (fading in)

Well, I sure hate to see you folks leave, but reckon you're anxious to be on your way.

DAVIS

Yep, got quite a ways to go yet. Oh, say...I meant to ask you, how are crops up in the Kootenai Valley?

JOHNSON

Oh, you mean Paradise Valley? Well sir, I ought to know. Up there the land is plenty fertile, but they can't market the stuff.

DAVIS

What's the trouble?

JOHNSON

Why, I grew pumpkins myself, but they were so big I couldn't get 'em on a wagon. So I went in for potatoes. Then a man came around and wanted to buy a hundred pounds of spuds. Only a hundred pounds, I says to him. No, I can't do it -- I wouldn't cut a spud in two for no one.





ORGAN: SYMBOLIC MUSIC BEHIND...

NARRATOR

On and on we drove; eagerly we looked for Paradise Valley. On past Billings, past Bozeman, past Butte, past Helena -- into Idaho, past Coeur d'Alene -- and to -- Paradise Valley!

ORGAN: UP AND OUT.

NARRATOR

It was a forty-acre tract that we decided upon. We made a tiny down payment, and contracted for the rest. It was a tangled wilderness, lying there at the foot of the tumbled mountains, but it was a challenge -- a challenge and a promise....(FADE).

DAVIS

Look at this soil, dear...

NELLE

Oh, it's....what do they call it...loamy?

DAVIS

I don't know about that, but it's fertile. The wild clover and the tall timothy say that much. Nelle, this is good land. We must do our part to keep it good.

NELLE

We will. Why shouldn't we? I feel that any man, or any woman, who tills the soil, has a moral obligation to keep that land good. We should know...coming from the dust bowl. Look over there by that old hemlock...

DAVIS

A grouse nest.

NELLE

And in the woods we went through today...trillium, tiger lilies, dog-tooth violets, lady slippers....

1. The first of the three is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

2. The second is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

3. The third is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

4. The fourth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

5. The fifth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

6. The sixth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

7. The seventh is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

8. The eighth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

9. The ninth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

10. The tenth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

11. The eleventh is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

12. The twelfth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

13. The thirteenth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

14. The fourteenth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

15. The fifteenth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

16. The sixteenth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

17. The seventeenth is the "New York Public Library," which was founded in 1808 by the City of New York. It is the largest library in the world, with over 21 million volumes.

DAVIS

Yes, and cedar posts and white pine logs! We've got to build a cabin!

NELLE

Always practical, aren't you? All right, Mr. Davis, we'll cut those trees, we'll trade cord wood for groceries or tools or hens, we'll pick fruit or vegetables on shares, but -- when these efforts are all added up, we'll have our own farm -- in Paradise Valley.

DAVIS

Our own farm -- and one that we'll keep for the children. We've had our ups and downs -- no, I'll say we've had our downs. We've seen what soil erosion can do. Our children will profit by our mistakes.

ORGAN: SYMBOLIC MUSIC BEHIND...

NARRATOR

Well, I like our farm. I like the little house sending up a lazy spiral of smoke against the background of snow-laden evergreens. We grow a lot of alfalfa, because it is a soil-saving crop. We keep trees around the farm, because we know from experience what damage can be done by letting the wind get a clean sweep at the soil. Consequently, nearly all the settlers in Paradise Valley have shelter belts around their farms. And the other day we had a caller...guess who it was...(FADE)

SOUND: Loud knocking on door...

JOHNSON (off mike)

Open up! Open up in the name of the law!

DAVIS

Now who in thunder could that be?

1931

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year.

2. The second part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

3. The third part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the results of the work during the year and the progress of the work during the year.

NELLE

What have we done?

JOHNSON

Open up, I tell you!

DAVIS

We'll soon find out.

SOUND: Door opens....

JOHNSON

Could a poor old man be having a cup of coffee?

DAVIS

Why, Gunnysack!

NELLE

Why, it's....

DAVIS

Come on in, you old rascal!

JOHNSON (laughing heartily)

Folks told me you had moved up here. Nice cabin you got, too....

DAVIS

We like it.

NELLE

Come in and sit down. I'll fix coffee.

JOHNSON

Oh, I was just kidding about that.

NELLE

Well, I'm not.

DAVIS

What brings you back this way?

JOHNSON

Well, sir, I'll tell you. I was looking for my pet rattlesnake.





DAVIS

Rattlesnake?

JOHNSON

Yes sir. You see, once I was riding through a pass and I saw a rattler pinned under a stone. I got off my horse and started to kill him, but got soft-hearted like, and turned him loose. As I went on my way I kept hearing funny noises, and I looks back, and there was that silly snake. It came right to my cabin.

DAVIS

Oh, now....

JOHNSON

Yes sir, right to my cabin. I opened some canned milk, and that snake drank it all, and you could just see the gratitude in his eyes. He stayed around and got right friendly. And then one night...

DAVIS

What happened?

JOHNSON

Well sir, I woke up and there was a burglar on the floor. He was hollering "Get this blamed blankety-blank thing off me." I lit a candle, and do you know, there on the floor was a guy who had sneaked in to steal my gold dust.

DAVIS

How about the rattler?

JOHNSON

That rattler had wrapped hisself around the man's leg and the leg of the table, and had his tail through the keyhole, rattling for the sheriff!



NARRATOR

Stories like that make up a lot of Idaho lore -- but my story is true.

ORGAN: Sneak in SYMBOLIC MUSIC...

NARRATOR

You see, we are happy here. We have found a land that rewards our labor and we intend to reward the soil. We are getting back where we belong, in the ranks of the producers. It's good for the soul -- and good for the soil. We will do all we can to keep the good land good, to prevent further soil erosion. You see, we like Paradise Valley.

ORGAN: UP AND DOWN BEHIND....

ANNOUNCER

"Thou shall inherit the holy earth as a faithful steward, conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from overgrazing by thy herds, so that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land thy fruitful fields shall become sterile stony ground and wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or be destroyed from off the face of the earth."

ORGAN: UP AND OUT.

###

B3 288